SUBJECT No. 68.

Free permission to shoot tigers and cheetahs in State and other Forests.

Messrs. B. Venkatagiriappa and Anche Thimmappa, Sagar Taluk.

Summary of Discussion.—Free license should be given. Ten out of 20 cattle are killed in each village. Villages are bordered by State Forest in most places. In Abligere, six miles from Shimoga, three people were killed by a tiger. Number of tigers has increased and not decreased. For protection of crops, we get a free license. If the tiger runs into the forests, we cannot pursue.

Per contra it was stated that the license permitted pursuing these in forests. There is difficulty in getting license. It takes months to get one. If information is given, Government may undertake the killing of wild beasts and send game officers to shoot the tigers.

Reply of Government.—A lincense is necessary to shoot in State Forests and the license fee is Rs. 5. If a tiger is shot, the licensee gets a reward of Rs. 50. If information is given, Government are prepared to do all they can.

SUBJECT No. 69.

Enlargement on bail of the accused person on sufficient security till the expiry of the appeal period against the conviction of the court of the first instance.

Messrs. T. Guruchennabasavaiya and Abdul Nabi Khan Saheb, Tumkur Municipality and Singri Nanjappa, Tiptur Municipality.

Summary of Discussion.—A person is convicted for 24 hours and before any steps are taken, the sentence is executed so much so that the order of the first court is practically final. There is thus no use of appellate courts in such cases. The person will have suffered imprisonment and quashing of conviction is no use to him. We are not concerned with the practice elsewhere. In cases where an accused is let on bail, he may continue to be on bail, as an under trial prisoner. Let appellate court act on a telegram.

Reply of Government.—No country has such a principle. After conviction, consequences must follow. A higher Court can set it aside.

SUBJECT No. 70.

Empowering Lock-up Officers to enlarge prisoners on bail.

Messrs. H. S. Gundappa and B. K. Venkataramanaiya, Kunigal Taluk.

Summary of Discussion.—Appellate Courts order release on bail. If the magistrate of the lower court is on leave or absent, there is none to give effect to the order, and this entails a great hardship. Lock-up officers may be empowered to take bail. The status and other qualifications of the sureties produced are generally known to the Lock-up officers.

Reply of Government.—Acceptance of bail is a judicial act. The suggestion cannot be accepted.

PROTECTION—(POLICE).

(Nos. 71 to 73).

SUBJECT No. 71.

Renewal of gun licenses to be effected once in 5 years and the license forms to be got printed in stamp papers.

Messrs. H. Narayana Rao, Molakalmuru Taluk; Nadig Lakshmana Rao and Nadig Bhaskara Rao, Sorab Taluk.

Summary of Discussion.—Renewal of license every year is a great hardship and the period may be extended to 5 years.

The Dewan stated that as, under the rules, the District Magistrate could issue a license for 3 years, there was no question of renewal during that period, and that the rule was not perhaps widely known.

The rule may be given wide publicity. It is better to invest the Amildar with this power, as he is easily available. The real difficulty is the delay in the grant of the license. The period sometimes extends to nearly a year. If the District Magistrate declines to issue a license, an appeal should lie to Government.

Reply of Government.—The working of the three years rule will be watched for sometime before trying to extend the period to 5 years. No provision for an appeal is necessary, as Government can review the order of the District Magistrate.

SUBJECT No. 72.

Appointment of a committee of Hindus and Mahomedans to frame rules in regard to processions before mosques and temples.

Messrs. H. V. Chendrasekharayya and R. Gopalswami Iyer, Bangalore City Municipality.

Summary of Discussion.—This is a vexed question and is the cause of constant friction between several communities. Places of worship are of course necessary, but what happens is that private houses in public streets are often converted into places of worship and objection is taken to processions passing with music. There is the further anomaly, under the Chief Commissioner's notification, that certain old places of worship enjoy the privilege, while the others do not. A general committee consisting of officials and non-officials may be appointed to go into the question and frame rules, which may be published broadcast.

Per contra it was urged that a committee was not at all likely to solve the difficulty and the members of the Committee will surely differ in their points of view. The trouble was not confined to different communities, such as Hindus and Mahomedans, but was prevalent even among the members of the same community. Certain streets formed the bone of contention with regard to processions. All courts had on their files cases relating to such disputes. Discussion of a matter of this kind was not quite proper in this Assembly. The only remedy appeared to be for the Government to take up the question and pass definite orders, conferring the same rights for all communities everywhere.

Reply of Government.—The matter has been referred to in the Address. Government do not contemplate the constitution of any committee.

SUBJECT No. 73.

Prohibition of police constables from being deputed for guarding treasuries.

Mr. B. Narayana Reddi, Bagepalli Taluk.

Summary of Discussion.—If it is contemplated to entrust the duties of guarding treasuries to the Police, it is apprehended that there will not be enough men for regular police work. Crime will increase and there will be insecurity of life and property.

Reply of Government.—There need be no such misapprehension. The strength of the police will be increased sufficiently in that case.

PROTECTION—(PUBLIC HEALTH AND SANITATION).

(*Nos. 74 to 82.*)

SUBJECT No. 74.

Increase in the number of scholarships for students in the Medical School, Bangalore.

Mr. P. Papanna, Nanjangud Taluk.

Mr. P. Papanna.—The number of scholarships for students in the Bangalore Medical School may be raised to 24.

First Member of Council.—There are already a large number of pupils undergoing training in the Medical School. The number of scholarships for students originally given in the Medical School was 30 and now it has been reduced to 8. The present strength of the school is more than 60 now. It is unnecessary to increase the number of scholarships.

Dewan.—Difficulty is also felt for accommodation. There is no necessity for more scholarships.